







## **Memorandum of Agreement**

<u>between</u> the State of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska

Cooperation on Flood Recovery and Future Flood Control in the Lower Missouri River Basin

## **PURPOSE**

This Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") is entered into by and between the Governors of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska (together, the "States") for the purpose of enhancing and promoting cooperation among the States to improve flood recovery and future flood control in the Lower Missouri River Basin. The Missouri River is a vital multi-purpose resource, and its surrounding lands provide some of the most fertile and productive farmland in the country. Many people rely on the effective and predictable operation of the Missouri River by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") for protection of their lives, homes, livestock, crops, and futures. This MOA is intended to formalize the resolve of the States to cooperate in addressing these issues of common concern. The States also intend this MOA to serve as a reassertion of state leadership in guiding the federal government's management of the Missouri River, particularly by the USACE.

## **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Governors of the States have pledged their support to cooperate on solutions to protect the Missouri River as a vital multi-purpose resource while protecting people and communities; and

WHEREAS, the relevant agencies of the States have additionally pledged their cooperation and support in fulfilling the purpose of this agreement; and

WHEREAS, the States have mutual concerns and responsibility to their citizens concerning the effective operation of the Missouri River system;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governors of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska do hereby agree jointly and cooperatively to direct their respective agencies, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, the Kansas Water Office, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources to:

- 1) Identify areas of joint study to improve flood recovery and flood control to mitigate impacts of future weather-related events;
- 2) Share information about actions taken by each state and their respective agencies, and coordinate actions to mitigate potential negative systemic impacts;
- 3) Advocate collectively for state leadership in guiding the federal government's management of the river;
- 4) Develop flood infrastructure and conveyance opportunities in a coordinated manner to ensure the most effective systemic outcome;
- 5) Meet regularly to share information, coordinate activities, and review progress. Meetings may occur in person or by teleconference, as may be most appropriate for the agencies; and
- 6) Report biennially to the Governors of the States on the status of this agreement, beginning with the first such report by December 31, 2019.

## THE PARTIES FURTHER AGREE THAT:

- 1) This MOA shall become effective on the date of the final signature set forth below and shall continue in effect unless modified by mutual written consent of all parties or termination by one party upon a ninety-day written notice to the other parties;
- 2) Nothing in this MOA shall be construed as restricting or limiting in any way state sovereignty or the statutory authority or jurisdiction of any party or any agency from the States assisting with these efforts; and
- 3) Amendments to this MOA may be proposed by any party and shall become effective upon the written consent of all parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Governors of the State of Iowa, the State of Kansas, the State of Missouri, and the State of Nebraska have hereunto set their hands.

Kim Reynolds, Governor

State of Iowa

Michael Parson, Governor

State of Missouri

Laura Kelly, Governor

State of Kansas

Pete Ricketts, Governor

State of Nebraska